

AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY TO RECEIVE  
FOR INSTRUCTION AT THE U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST  
POINT TWO CITIZENS AND SUBJECTS OF THE KINGDOM OF  
THAILAND

JULY 16, 1959.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. THURMOND, from the Committee on Armed Services, submitted  
the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany S.J. Res. 24]

The Committee on Armed Services, to whom was referred the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 24) authorizing the Secretary of the Army to receive for instruction at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point two citizens and subjects of the Kingdom of Thailand, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the joint resolution do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE RESOLUTION

This measure would authorize the Secretary of the Army to permit two persons who are citizens and subjects of the Kingdom of Thailand to receive instruction at the U.S. Military Academy.

EXPLANATION OF THE RESOLUTION

*Background*

Sections 4345, 9345, and 6957 of title 10, United States Code, authorize the instruction at the Military Academy, the Air Force Academy, and the Naval Academy of four persons from the Republic of the Philippines. Sections 4344, 9344, and 6957 of title 10, United States Code, authorize the admission at each of the service academies of not more than 20 persons at any one time from Canada and the American Republics (other than the United States). Except for these special provisions, students from other friendly nations may attend the service academies only under special legislation.

Public Law 318, 83d Congress, authorized the admission of two citizens of Thailand to the Military Academy. Under this authority, two Thai citizens were admitted to the Military Academy and have since been graduated.

## 2 RECEIVE AT MILITARY ACADEMY TWO CITIZENS OF THAILAND

### *Conditions of admission*

The joint resolution provides that the United States shall not bear the expense of instructing the two Thai citizens who would be admitted under the resolution.

The persons who would be admitted to the Military Academy under this resolution would be subject to the same rules and regulations governing admission, attendance, discipline, discharge, dismissals, and graduation as citizens of the United States except that they would not be entitled to appointment to any office or position in the U.S. Army because of their having graduated from the Academy.

The citizens who could be admitted under this resolution would not be required to subscribe to the oath required of U.S. citizens and they would not be required to sign an agreement to serve in the Armed Forces of the United States. The reasons for exempting these persons from the foregoing requirements are obvious.

### COST

The resolution expressly provides that the United States shall not be subject to any expense on account of instruction received by the two subjects of the Kingdom of Thailand at the Military Academy.

### DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION

Printed below and hereby made a part of this report are a letter from the Secretary of the Army dated June 26, 1959, and a letter from the Assistant Secretary of State dated May 26, 1959, indicating that there is no objection to the resolution by the Army and that the Department of State favors the resolution.

The admission of two Belgium citizens to the Naval Academy that is mentioned in the letter from the Department of State would be authorized by Senate Joint Resolution 106 which has been reported favorably by the committee this date.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY,  
Washington, D.C., June 26, 1959.

Hon. RICHARD B. RUSSELL,  
*Chairman, Committee on Armed Services,*  
*U.S. Senate.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Reference is made to your request to the Secretary of Defense for the views of the Department of Defense with respect to Senate Joint Resolution 24, 86th Congress, a bill authorizing the Secretary of the Army to receive for instruction at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point two citizens and subjects of the Kingdom of Thailand. The Secretary of Defense has delegated to the Department of the Army the responsibility for expressing the views of the Department of Defense thereon.

The purpose of the bill is stated in its title.

The Department of the Army on behalf of the Department of Defense interposes no objection to the above-mentioned bill.

Under the provisions of sections 4345, 9345, and 6957 of title 10, United States Code, one person per class, or a total of four, from the

Republic of the Philippines may receive instruction at the U.S. Military Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy, and the U.S. Naval Academy, respectively. In addition, not more than 20 persons at any one time from Canada and the American Republics (other than the United States) may receive instruction at each of the service academies under the provisions of sections 4344, 9344, and 6957 of title 10, United States Code. At the present time, students from friendly nations other than the Philippines, Canada, and the American Republics may attend only under special legislation. Two Thai nationals were authorized to receive instruction at the U.S. Military Academy under the provisions of the act of March 26, 1954 (68 Stat. 34).

The Department of Defense is preparing legislation to submit to the 86th Congress which would revise the present system of appointment to the service academies so as to provide more equitable opportunities for those persons desiring to enter these academies. One of the provisions of this proposed legislation would extend eligibility for attendance at the U.S. Military Academy, U.S. Naval Academy, and U.S. Air Force Academy to citizens of all friendly nations on an equitable and more flexible basis, to remove certain restrictions therein as to nationality and to provide for a maximum number of foreign persons to receive instruction at each of the service academies.

On 20 April 1959, the Department submitted a report opposing enactment of Senate Joint Resolution 24 on the grounds that it was piecemeal legislation to accomplish one of the purposes of the comprehensive Department of Defense legislative proposal referred to above. It is doubtful, however, that the Department of Defense proposal will be enacted in time to authorize the admission of the two Thai nationals to the U.S. Military Academy class of 1963. For this reason, the Department withdraws its objection to Senate Joint Resolution 24.

Enactment of this bill would cause no additional expense to the Department of Defense.

This report has been coordinated within the Department of Defense in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Secretary of Defense.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that there is no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,

WILBER M. BRUCKER,  
*Secretary of the Army.*

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*Washington, May 26, 1959.*

DEAR SENATOR RUSSELL: With reference to your letter of March 23, 1959, requesting the Department's recommendations concerning Senate Joint Resolution 24, the Department favors the proposed authorization for two Thai citizens to be admitted to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, as outlined in this resolution. Thailand is allied with the United States in the Southeast Asia Collective Defense Treaty, has provided troops to defend Korea against Communist aggression, and follows a vigorous policy of defending its own freedom against Communist attempts at infiltration and penetration. Furthermore, the United States under the mutual security program is

providing training and equipment to strengthen the Thai armed forces. Thai officers have previously studied at the Academy under the terms of special legislation. It would therefore be most suitable to authorize the entry of selected Thai into the U.S. Military Academy.

At the same time, the Department also believes that the resolution should be amended to provide authorization also for the training of two Belgian cadets at the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md. Public Law 318, 83d Congress, approved March 24, 1954, authorized the training of two Belgian citizens at Annapolis as well as the training of Thai citizens at West Point. Both groups have now completed their courses and the Belgian Government has indicated its desire to send an additional two students to be trained at Annapolis. Belgium is firmly allied with the United States in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, contributed troops in the defense of Korea against the Communist invasion, and, throughout the post-World War II period, has cooperated closely with the United States. The Department believes that the interests of the United States are well served by limited military training programs of this type.

The Department has been informed by the Bureau of the Budget that there is no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM B. MACOMBER, Jr.,  
*Assistant Secretary*  
(For the Acting Secretary of State).

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